

### Remarks

Claims 1-21 are currently pending and stand rejected. Claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, and 19 have been amended. Applicants assert that the claims are now in condition for allowance as set forth more fully below.

### Objections to the Drawings

Figure 6 has been objected to due to the reference number 601 being referred to as 604 in the specification. The specification has been amended to refer to 601 such this object may now be withdrawn. No correction to the drawings is necessary in view of the amendment to the specification.

### 112 Rejections

Claims 5, 13, and 19 are rejected for use of the JAVA trademark incorrectly. These claims have been amended to correct the usage by capitalizing all letters and including the generic terminology. Accordingly, these rejections may now be withdrawn.

### 103 Rejections

Claims 1-5, 9-13, 17, and 19 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyamoto (US Pat 6,662,363) in view of Matthews (Introduction to JAVA RMI). Claims 6, 14, and 18 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyamoto in view of Matthews and further in view of Flanagan (JAVA in a Nutshell). Claims 7, 8, 15, 16, 20, and 21 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyamoto in view of Matthews and further in view of Rag (JAVA RMI) and further in view of Engel (US Pat 6,681,389). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

The Office Action has rejected independent claims 1, 9, and 17 based on the combination of Miyamoto and Matthews. As a representative example, amended claim 1 recites, in part, acquiring program data that defines the underlying program structure including one or more object language components of the application, displaying the program data including the one or more object language components to a maintenance person, accepting a command from the maintenance person, and executing the command

to cause the program data of the executing application to be modified without suspending or terminating the executing application. Thus, the program data is not the data being provided on the basis of normal execution of an application or its installation, as in Miyamoto, but is instead data that defines the underlying structure including at least one object language component that is not otherwise apparent to users of the application itself.

Miyamoto discloses providing graphical information to users during the installation and use of an application and allowing the user to make selections or enter information in the normal course of the installation or use of the application. This is the normal graphical output and input/output of the installation process or use of the application. However, this is not acquiring and displaying program data that defines the underlying program structure including at least one object language component. There is no underlying program structure information being acquired in Miyamoto.

Furthermore, Matthews discusses the use of RMI to allow an object located across a network to be implemented by an application executing at another network location. Matthews is interested in what occurs via RMI through the execution of a distributed application. However, Matthews does not disclose nor contemplate that the program data defining the underlying program structure is acquired and displayed for a maintenance person such that commands to modify the program data are received and executed while the application continues to execute.

Accordingly, claims 1, 9, and 17 are patentable over the currently rejection based on Miyamoto and Matthews, singly or in combination, for at least these reasons. Dependent claims 2-8, 10-16, and 18-21 depend from allowable base claims and are also allowable for at least the same reasons. Furthermore, these claims recite additional patentable features allowable over the cited combination of references. For example, claim 7 recites accepting a selection of a method from the program data and invoking the method from the command line with at least one new argument. None of the cited references disclose that a method of the program data for the application that is executing is selected and invoked from the command line with at least one new argument as the application continues to execute.

Furthermore, the additional cited references also fail to disclose that such program data is acquired from an application while it is executing so that the program data can be displayed during its execution and so that a command to modify the program data is accepted and executed while the application continues to execute. Indeed, Engel teaches away from such recitations as the application/platforms of Engel is said to activate in a trial/test and rollback to a previous version in the event of a failure, as opposed to modifying the program structure during the continued execution of an application.

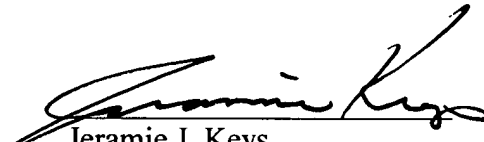
#### Conclusion

Applicants assert that the application including claims 1-21 is now in condition for allowance. Applicants request reconsideration in view of the amendments and remarks above and further request that a Notice of Allowability be provided. Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

No fees are believed due. However, please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3025.

Respectfully submitted,

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